

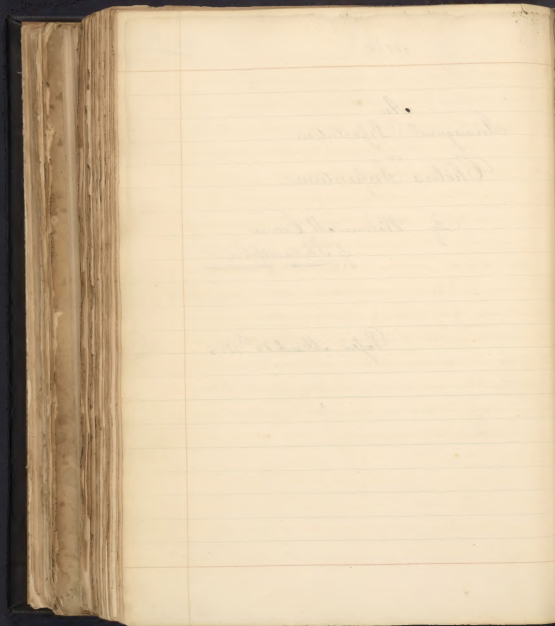
No 140

No 15

An
Inaugural Dissertation
on
Cholera Infantum.

By William M. Currie
of Philadelphia

Passed March 12th 1823



Cholera Infantum.

Cholera Infantum it is supposed is only a variety of the Cholera Morbus; if we take into view the symptoms of this latter disease as it appeared during the time of Hydenham, we will be struck with their Identity. It appeared under similar Circumstances and displayed the very same Symptoms, differing at least so slightly, that Considering the various forms under which we meet disease, when modified by Climate or Constitution, we will be surprised at its varying so little.

In this Country we have the Corroborating testimony of Physicians, which serves to justify the Conclusion that Cholera Infantum is merely a variety of Cholera Morbus.

As late as the last summer, in certain districts of this City among the poor; the Remittent, the Cholera Morbus, and Infantum, were observed to exist in the same Houses. The districts which were infected by the one, were invariably infected by the other, and the same Causes which would act in removing one, acted in removing all.

By Consulting the Lectures of the present Professor of the Practice of the University of Pennsylvania, we will find his Opinion of the Close alliance existing between the two diseases stated

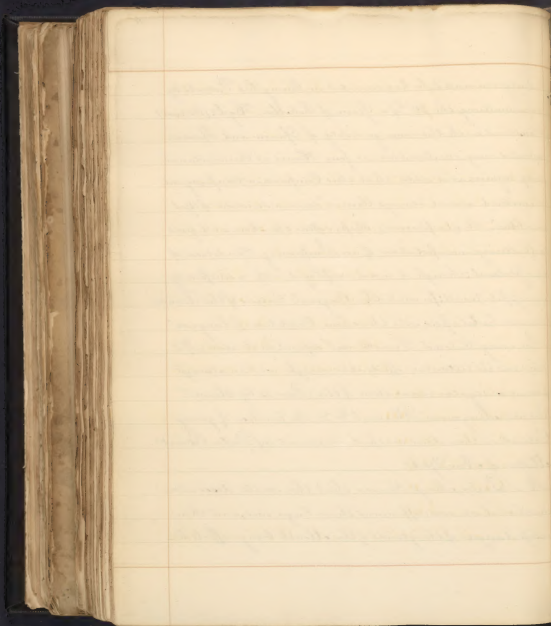
Journal of J. H. Thompson

Jan 1st. Left for the mountains. The weather was very cold and the snow was deep. We traveled for several days and reached the mountains on the 5th. The mountains were very high and the scenery was very beautiful. We stayed in a small cabin and the people were very friendly. We went for a walk in the mountains and saw many beautiful views. The mountains were very high and the scenery was very beautiful. We stayed in a small cabin and the people were very friendly. We went for a walk in the mountains and saw many beautiful views.

entirely evacuated, he has succeeded in curing his Patients by administering the ʒssth of a Grain of Sublimed Hydr. (Calomel) Combined with the same quantity of Opium and Specac. repeated every one, two, three, or four Hours as Circumstances may require, and adds "that this Composition Carefully administered almost always Carried down a secretion of Gel. leucobilo". It also procures sleep, softens the skin, and gives a flattering manifestation of an Improving Condition of the Patient; though it is not employed with a uniformly successful result; for while the Original Causes of the disease remain he relapses into the same Condition of languor."

In using Calomel I would not depend on it alone. If it produces its alterative effects, it is enough: we can always procure a regular evacuation of the Bowels by Gum Scammony, Magnesia, Rhubarb &c. & the practice of giving Calomel in these doses was first introduced by Doctor Edward Miller of New York.

It is Doctor Miller's Opinion that the small doses above mentioned are more efficacious than larger ones, and there is less danger of the glands of the Mouth being affected.



Injectiōns are proper to Relieve the painful efforts of the Rectum; they may be used five or six times a day if Composed of thin mucilaginous materials; at Night an addition of Laudanum is useful.

The Cholera Infantum may terminate in Diarrhoea the Stomach at the same time being irritable. if irritation is excessive. Anodyne injections are called for: the alkalies or Relaxant Mixtures are recommended

R/ Crota ppt — ʒij

℞ Opii ʒss xx

Sacch alb. ʒij

Aqua Com ʒiij . . .

Capiat Crochl larg. i Om. d. hora

Or R/ Pul Albu ʒss x

Maz. Calc ʒss xxx

℞ Opii ʒss xx

Sacch alb ʒij

℞ Anisi ʒss vi

Aqua Com ʒ viij

℞ Capiat Crochl larg. i Om. d. "ad N" hora

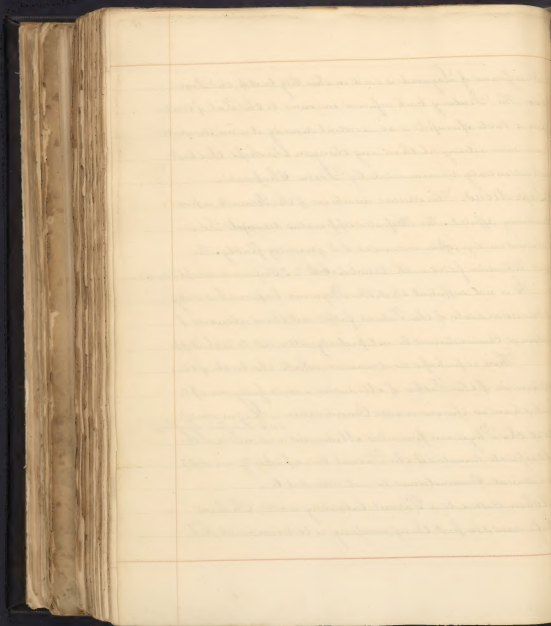
The infusion of Logwood is used in this City to stop the Diarrhea. The Decoction bark infusion one ounce to the Pint of Water dose a table spoonful is an excellent Remedy it is an Aromatic and more astringent than any thing in the shops. this last is particularly recommended by Doctor Chapman.

Dissections. The Mucous membrane of the Stomach is particularly affected. The Hepatic apparatus deranged. Liver increased in size, often indurated but generally flabby. The gall Bladder filled with Vitiated bile. & Chapman manuscript Letters.

It is not sufficient that the Physician performs his duty if the attendants of the Patient fulfill not theirs also, and if external Circumstances be not properly attended to. Aph. Steps.

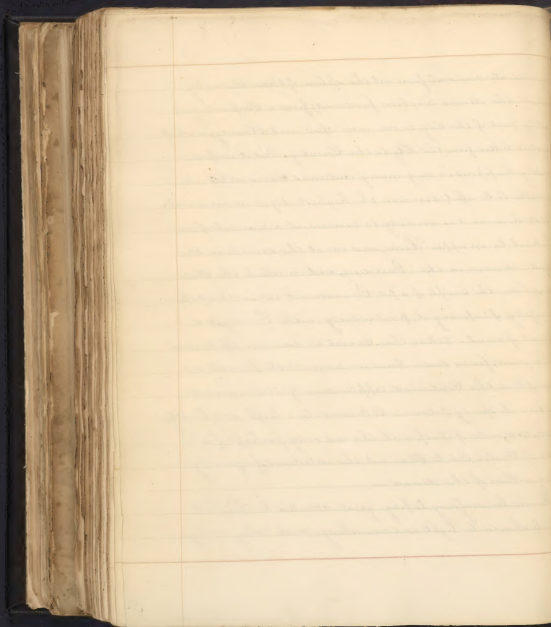
There is perhaps no disease in which the truth of this Aphorism of the Father of Medicine is more fully exemplified, than in the one under Consideration. It is in vain that the Physician prescribes Medicines and ^{such successful symptoms} administers the appropriate Remedies, if the Patient be improperly nursed; or external Circumstances be not attended to.

When called to a Patient labouring under Cholera Infantum, the first thing necessary is to recommend his



immediate removal from out the sphere of those Causes by which the disease has been produced; from a Confined and filthy part of the City to one more open and Cleanly, or what is still better from the City to the Country. But it unfortunately happens in very many instances this is either impossible to be effected, or in the highest degree inconvenient. Still however it is our duty to recommend a removal of our Patient to an upper Room, and one at the same time the most extensive in the Building, and in which the Child may have the benefit of a free Circulation of Air, without the necessity of exposing it, particularly in the Evening, to a Current of wind. Where this Cannot be done our efforts must be in vain, for no sooner have we removed the present disease, than the Continued application of its Causes will produce its speedy Return. A removal to a high and healthy situation; with if such, with the aid only perhaps of a dose of Castor Oil to Clear out the intestines, frequently effect a Cure of the disease —

It will be necessary to pay great attention to the Diet which should be light and nourishing. Milk whey is very



15
suitable as also the farinaceous substances - during
Convalescence the lightest and most grateful food should
be taken in a small quantity at a time, such as Chicken
broth, Sage, Rice gruel -

